IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please cancel the current abstract and insert the following.

~~A plurality of edge information of a mark are extracted together with attribute information that represents the shift direction of the edge information from the actual edge position of the mark, i.e., one of the over, under, left, or right directions. The plurality of edge information are compared with templates specified by corresponding attribute information. The mark position is detected on the basis of a plurality of comparison results obtained by comparison.~~

-- A position detection apparatus for detecting a position of a mark on an object includes a camera which captures an image of the mark, an extraction section which extracts a plurality of edge positions of the mark based on a signal derived from the image of the mark, each of the edge positions being associated with a combination of a direction and a polarity of the signal, and a determination section which determines a position of the mark, by comparing each of the plurality of extracted edge positions with a corresponding one of templates prepared for the respective combinations. --